

REMARKS

This Response, submitted in response to the Office Action dated April 25, 2008, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-23 are all the claims pending in the application. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that Claims 18 and 23 are allowed, and that claim 2, 6, 8, 12, and 14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 1, 5, 7, 11, 13, 19, 20, 21, and 22 stand rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claim 1, 3-5, 7, 9-11, 13, 15-17, and 19-22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishibashi et al. (U.S. 2003/0115359, hereinafter “Ishibashi”) in view of Fantaske (U.S. 6,922,557, hereinafter “Fantaske”). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 recites in part:

an encapsulation means for encapsulating the wireless LAN signal in OSI layer 2 by providing the wireless LAN signal with a header having its own terminal's MAC address as an originating MAC address and a wireless LAN base station's MAC address as a destination MAC address; and

a transmission means for transmitting the encapsulated wireless LAN signal to the wireless LAN base station.

The Examiner correctly concedes that Ishibashi fails to teach the destination MAC address being a MAC address of a wireless LAN base station; and transmitting the encapsulated wireless LAN signal to the wireless LAN base station. *See* Office Action, pg. 3. The Examiner cites Fantaske to make up for this deficiency. Applicant respectfully notes that “[i]f the proposed modification or combination of the prior art would change the principle of operation of

the prior art invention being modified, the teachings of the references are not sufficient to render the claims prima facie obvious. In re Ratti, 270 F.2d 810, 123 USPQ 349 (CCPA 1959).” MPEP at § 2143.01(VI). In Ishibashi, the Ethernet header contains the MAC address “B” of the server computer as Destination address and the MAC address “A” of the personal computer 30 as Source Address (SA). See para. 37. Ishibashi requires that this address in header is not specific or dependent on a particular wireless base station being used, but rather would be the same destination address whether the base station of Shop A or of Shop B were being used. Accordingly, the destination address must always be of the server computer. Accordingly, modifying Ishibashi that the destination address in the header is instead the address of a specific access point would change the principle of operation of Ishibashi. Accordingly, Applicant submits that such modification is not allowable. Therefore, the Applicant submits that claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection. All of the independent claims 5, 7, 11, 13, 19, 20, 21, and 22 contain features similar to features of claim 1, with respect to the MAC addresses. As such, these claims should be allowable for analogous reasons. The dependent claims are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on the independent claims.

Furthermore, with respect to claim 13, Applicant respectfully submits that the proposed combination fails to teach a first reception means and a second reception means for receiving a wireless LAN signal. Fig. 2, of Ishibashi illustrates the presence of only one Wireless LAN section 24 in access point 20. See para. 34. Similarly, Ishibashi fails to teach that the presence of a first and a second transmission means. Accordingly, because the cited references do not

teach the presence of a plurality of reception means for receiving a wireless LAN signal and transmission means, claim 13 is believed to be allowable for this additional reason.

Furthermore, with respect to claim 15, as discussed above, there is no teaching of a plurality of reception or transmission means. Accordingly, there is no teaching that such means operate in a time sharing manner using a common wireless LAN module. Therefore, claim 15 is allowable for this additional reason.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

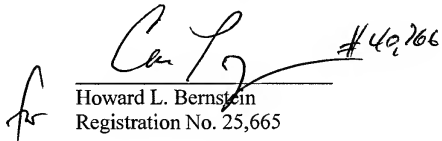
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